

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting individuals across the state, and finding solutions requires input and action from every South Dakota community; and,

*Whereas*, Children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, As of January 2018, there were 1,587 children in state custody; and,

*Whereas*, Child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims of abuse; and,

*Whereas*, Community support is needed to help families break the cycle of abuse and neglect and improve the well-being of families; and,

*Whereas*, We acknowledge working together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment is vital; and,

*Whereas*, Every child is entitled to be safe, secure, loved, nurtured, and cared for; and therefore, the South Dakota Department of Social Services wants to remind parents, guardians, and other adults about the importance of supporting programs that foster prevention of child abuse and neglect:

*Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as

## *CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eighteen.

*Dennis Daugaard*  
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

*Shantel Krebs*  
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State